

audience. Someone has to buy it, and it would be eccentric to demand that a book meant for Anglo-Saxon hyper-literate readers would try to tie its discourse to issues which are debated by commoners in, say, Scandinavian, Asian or Arab societies. Such issues would undoubtedly have seemed to the authors not only foreign but also in some sense disturbingly old-fashioned and naive. The writers of this book have faced similar problems as those Greek authors they discuss – and have solved them no less satisfactorily.

*Antti Arjava*

MAURO CRISTOFANI: *Etruschi e altre genti nell'Italia preromana. Mobilità in età arcaica*. *Archaeologica* 120. Giorgio Bretschneider Editore, Roma 1996. ISBN 88-7689-126-9. 183 pp., xi tavole. EUR 180,76.

Mauro Cristofani collected eight papers published in diverse journals and books during the years 1991-95 into a volume of the *Archaeologica* series which appeared before his untimely death in 1997. They have a central theme indicated by the subtitle: we have either merchants from the Eastern or Southern Mediterranean in Etruria or in contact with the Etruscans, or Etruscans outside Etruria proper. This archaic mobility, both commercial and colonial, has been much in focus during the last decades; Cristofani clearly had a more ambitious research plan, but other duties forced him to satisfy his readers with this collection of articles. One would have naturally hoped for a comprehensive, systematic presentation by Cristofani on this theme, but due to the author's too early demise, we are left with this book.

As it is, we must be content with the discussion of some of the most interesting aspects of the theme: Sostratos at Gravisca, Phoenicians at Pyrgi, an Etruscan "letter" at Pech Maso, early Etruscan colonization in Campania, Etruscans at Pompeii, and the rich Etruscan colony at Spina which has not been handled too often in recent years. There is also a new Introduction discussing the distribution of early Etruscan inscriptions outside Etruria. Cristofani's discussion of these subjects is acute and well founded, sometimes raising objections, but always interesting.

*Jorma Kaimio*

*Sordes urbis: La eliminación de residuos en la ciudad romana. Actas de la reunión de Roma (15-16 Noviembre de 1996)*. Ed. XAVIER DUPRÉ RAVENTÓS & JOSEP-ANTON REMOLÀ. *Bibliotheca Italica* 24. "L'Erma" di Bretschneider, Roma 2000. ISBN 88-8265-082-0. xv, 150 pp. EUR 82.

The accumulation of waste is a universal problem, perhaps today more so than ever before. Waste and rubbish are also the bread and butter of archaeology: a dump can tell us more about life in a house or in a community than buildings in themselves or even texts can. The relationship of human beings and their waste has not been explored very thoroughly – at least not in the archaeological context. The work of William Rathje (e.g.